

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 /093 W
-----000110 021757Z /44

R 302105Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2618
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 01942

E.O 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, TD, UR
SUBJECT: LEADER OF OPPOSITION OFF TO MOSCOW

1. "EXPRESS" OF JUNE 30 REPORTS THAT EMBATTLED LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, BASDEO PANDAY, LEFT TRINIDAD JUNE 28 TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW HOSTED BY THE SOVIET AGRICULTURAL WORKERS' UNION. PANDAY, WHO ALSO IS PRESIDENT OF THE ALL-TRINIDAD SUGAR ESTATES AND FACTORIES WORKERS TRADE UNION, IS ACCOMPANIED BY ZORINA SHAH, THE EDITOR OF THE UNION'S PAPER, "BATTLEFRONT," AND OTHERS FROM THE UNION. THE GROUP ALSO WILL BE LOOKING, IN PANDAY'S WORDS, AT "THE TECHNIQUES WHICH COULD BE INTRODUCED (IN TRINIDAD) TO SPUR ON OUR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT." THE TRINIDADIAN DELEGATION, ALL OF WHOSE EXPENSES REPORTEDLY ARE BEING PAID BY THE SOVIETS, IS EXPECTED BACK HERE IN MID-JULY.

2. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF NATURE AND CONTENT OF ANY MEDIA COVERAGE THE PANDAY GROUP MAY RECEIVE WHILE IN THE USSR.

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3. COMMENT. THE TIMING OF PANDAY'S SOVIET EXCURSION IS CURIOUS. WITH THE RECENT RETURN TO THE OPPOSITION BENCHES OF RAFFIQUE SHAH-SUPPORTING MP, BOODRAM JATTAN, FREED FROM JAIL PENDING A RETRIAL, SHAH CLEARLY APPEARS TO HAVE THE SUPPORT HE NEEDS TO TOPPLE PANDAY AGAIN AND REGAIN THE LEADERSHIP OF THE OPPOSITION. INDEED, IT IS WIDELY PRE-

DICTIONED THAT SHAH WILL BE REAPPOINTED ANY DAY NOW. UNDER
THE CIRCUMSTANCES, PANDAY MAY HAVE CONCLUDED THAT HE WOULD
JUST AS SOON BE ELSEWHERE WHEN THE AX FELL, AND IF SOMEONE
ELSE WOULD PAY FOR A TRIP ABROAD, AND PROVIDE A PLAUSIBLE
EXCUSE FOR BEING AWAY, SO MUCH THE BETTER. FOX

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: ELAB, PINT, TD, UR, (PANDAY, BASDEO)
To: STATE MOSCOW
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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